

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Serial No. .... 09/823,682  
Filing Date ..... March 30, 2001  
Inventors ..... Arquie et al.  
Group Art Unit ..... 2179  
Examiner ..... Bautista, Xiomara L.  
Attorney's Docket No. .... 101-563-USP  
Title: Method for Distinguishing Between Single and Multiple Connections in a Network Topology

To: Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

From: Richard J. Holzer, Jr. (Tel. 720-377-0774; Fax 720-377-0777)  
Customer No. 48929

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENTS OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

The Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the allowance of claims 1, 2, 4, and 7-15 in the subject application by the Examiner. The Applicant agrees with the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance to the extent that claims 1, 2, 4, and 7-15 are patentable over the references in the record.

However, the Applicant expressly traverses the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance to the extent that any comment is intended to or has the effect of limiting a claim scope, explicitly or implicitly, by not reciting verbatim the respective claim language, or is intended to or has the effect of limiting a claim scope by stating or implying that all the reasons for patentability are in any way fully enumerated. The Applicant specifically does not acquiesce or agree in any manner as to any assertion in Examiner's comments that may be interpreted to narrow the claims to less than their recited scope.

The Applicant further points out that the reasons for allowance set forth by the Examiner are not the only reasons that claims 1, 2, 4, and 7-15 are allowable. Further reasons for allowance of the claims beyond those enumerated by the Examiner herein are described and set forth in the Applicant's specification. In addition, structures and methods that perform substantially the same function in substantially the same way to achieve substantially the same results are included within the scope of the claims.

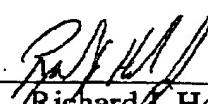
Finally, as the Examiner's reasons for allowance are not exhaustive, such reasons for allowance do not establish an estoppel against Applicant seeking and obtaining allowance of additional, broader claims in a continuation application, which Applicant reserves the right to file.

By virtue of the Examiner's allowance of the claims over the cited references and the associated arguments, it is believed that all arguments made by the Examiner have been overcome.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: Nov. 10, 2004

By:

  
Richard J. Holzer, Jr.  
Reg. No. 42,668

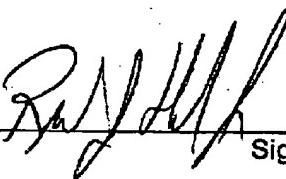


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